



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

PRO LTP

July 11, 2007

Michael W. Sole
Secretary
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd, Ms 10
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Dear Secretary Sole:

Subject: Request to Revise the Acme Basin B Discharge Project in the Long-Term Plan

The South Florida Water Management District (District) is actively implementing the components of the ***Long Term Plan for Achieving Water Quality Goals*** (Long-Term Plan) consistent with the requirements of the 2003 amended Everglades Forever Act (Act). The projects in the Long-Term Plan were designed to achieve compliance with the water quality standards for the Everglades Protection Area (EPA) based on specific assumptions and the best available information. In keeping with the adaptive implementation process envisioned in the Act, the District hereby requests approval to revise the Long-Term Plan as follows.

Revised Acme Basin B Discharge Project

The purpose of the Acme Basin B Discharge Project is to divert Acme Basin B runoff that was historically pumped directly into the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) to the C-51W Canal for delivery to STA-1E for treatment prior to entering the Refuge. In March 2006, the District requested approval to add the Acme Basin B Discharge Project to the Long-Term Plan. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) approved this request on June 15, 2006.

The Acme Basin B Discharge Project consists of two main components:

- C-1 Canal improvements and pump station to C-51W Canal
- Section 24 Impoundment and associated inflow pump station

The C-1 Canal improvements and temporary pumps to the C-51W Canal were installed by December 2006, and are currently in operation to effectively divert the basin's runoff away from the Refuge, and to the C-51W Canal. However, significant issues arose during the design of the permanent pump station, and the Section 24 impoundment requiring revisions to the schedules for completing these project components. The District and the Village of Wellington are conducting further value engineering review of

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the Section 24 Impoundment with particular emphasis on the system model, and the storage volume required to maintain the current level of flood protection. The current intent is to complete these features within the original budget shown in the March 2006 Long-Term Plan revision; however, the proposed revised schedule for their completion is June 2010. Further details on this revision request are provided in the attached Revised Part 3 document.

The Section 24 Reservation of Use will remain in effect through December 31, 2008 as currently described in the 2003 Long-Term Plan, and the March 2006 revision to the Long-Term Plan.

The District remains fully committed to implementing the Long-Term Plan as intended in the Everglades Forever Act, and the current proposed revision is consistent with the goals and objectives of that effort. If you have any questions on this revision request, please call Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources at (561) 682-6597.

Sincerely,



Carol Ann Wehle
Executive Director
South Florida Water Management District

CW/rp
Attachment

c: Jerry Brooks, FDEP
Richard Harvey, USEPA
Philip Mancusi-Ungaro, USEPA
Chip Merriam, SFWMD
Frank Nearhoof, FDEP